AB 32/Climate Change Task Force 11/10/09 Meeting Notes

Present: Don Blubaugh, Bob Brown, David Gold, Ed Shaffer, Brandt Anderson, Dana Riley, Gayle Uilkema, Sue Rainey, Antonio Inserni, Dana Riley, Gary Craft, Miles Imwalle, Linda Best, Terry Shoaff

Sue Rainey called the meeting to order. An Alameda/Contra Costa counties forum is scheduled on January 22 to hear updates from the League of Cities and the AB 32 Implementation Group on AB 32 and SB 375. (Note: meeting will be rescheduled due to scheduling conflicts, hopefully in the following week.)

Discussion continued with Gary Craft on the Action Plan of the East Bay Green Economy Cluster Study. Highlights of the discussion:

- There are opportunities to develop four industry clusters in the East Bay, consisting of companies producing green products and/or services
- Green economy is market-driven, not regulatory-driven
- Public sector can help drive the market by being early adopters, including developing Sustainability Master Plans, environmentally preferable purchasing, green building, alternative fuel fleets and renewable energy
- AB 32 currently encourages the public sector to move forward; will probably evolve into mandates:
 - Developing an inventory and plan to reduce emissions
 - Adopt climate action plans with focus on GHG emissions
- Cities should look at their entire operation for change, which can also lower costs. Two good examples are Sacramento and Manhattan Beach

It was agreed that a coordinated effort between the cities, the County and eventually other public agencies in Contra Costa would be beneficial to all. It would promote the County's economy and would be helpful to local government and lower costs. It was emphasized that such a coordinated effort should not get bogged down in planning, though that should occur, but should also focus on getting things done in the short term.

It was agreed that a smaller group would get together to lay our a scope of work, budget and sources of funding. The scope would initially focus on those jurisdictions in the County that are early adopters.

The next meeting was scheduled for December 4, to avoid the conflict that Tom Butt has every Monday. On the 4th, we will establish a regular time convenient for all.

(Note: The December meeting is being cancelled due to scheduling conflicts.)